

# THE LIVABILITY PROJECT

## BUILDING MORE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

### PUBLIC CHARRETTE WORKSHOP REPORT: MADISON SYLVAN PARK



MAY 2011



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# AN INTRODUCTION TO

The aging baby-boomer population of Nashville, and across the United States, has created a demographic shift in recent years. In 2000, the majority of Nashville's population was an age group of 21-34, greatly outnumbering those 65 years and older by more than half. It is estimated by 2018 that both age groups will be equal in number. This dramatic shift has been an incentive for cities across the country to reexamine the livability of their communities and implement changes to meet the universal needs of a multi-generational citizenry.

The city of Nashville has been no exception in examining the needs of an ever-changing population. As a result, The Nashville Livability Project, an initiative by Mayor Karl Dean and Vice Mayor Diane Neighbors, was created in 2009 following the research and recommendations of the Livable Community Task Force. Since inception, it has been the goal of the Nashville Livability Project to address the issues of the aging Nashville population and examine the obstacles in creating a more livable and universally designed city for all generations, community by community.

From AARP's A Report to the Nation on Livable Communities:

*"Unless America makes a commitment to livable communities, baby boomers and other persons of a range of ages and with a variety of abilities will find it difficult to age successfully and remain engaged with their communities. The shortage of affordable and well-designed housing, mobility options, and opportunities for community engagement make it difficult for persons to maintain independence and a high quality of life. On the other hand, those communities that design for livability empower their residents to remain independent and engaged, and offer a better quality of life."*

In an effort to improve the quality of life for the people of Nashville, the Nashville Civic Design Center, partnered with The Nashville Livability Project, facilitated a series of public workshop charrettes to address the livability concerns of the Madison and Sylvan Park communities; these communities were chosen for their dynamic make-up of citizens that span both younger and baby-boomer generations. The public workshops focused on livability concerns such as housing types, healthcare, transportation, walkability, food access, active learning, civic organizations, entertainment, convenience, safety, technology, and beautification.

After addressing their livability concerns, the community members then compiled a final list of recommendations for improving their respective communities in a manner that would allow all citizens to live cohesively and independently while fostering strong communities for future generations.

To read the Livable Community Task Force report,  
"Creating a Livable Community for All Ages: The Nashville Livability Project," please visit:  
<http://www.nashville.gov/neighborhoods/docs/livablecommunitiesreport.pdf>

# THE LIVABILITY PROJECT

In the public charrette workshops, community members analyzed the livability of their respective communities based on a variety of concerns. These factors, listed below, measure the overall success of a community's livability for current citizens and future generations.

## **ACTIVE LEARNING**

Parks, (active, passive) community center, senior center(s), continuing education options

## **BEAUTIFICATION**

Streetscaping, parks, yards

## **CIVIC**

Library, museum, performance, music venues, post office, schools

## **CONVENIENCE**

Dry cleaners, gas, drugstore, shopping/clothes, electronics

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

Movies, bars, restaurants, art galleries, athletic facilities

## **FOOD ACCESS**

Community gardens, grocery stores, restaurants, farms, farmer's markets, community-supported agriculture

## **HEALTH CARE**

Access to doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, rehabilitation centers, athletic facilities, yoga studios

## **HOUSING TYPES**

Availability of a mixture of all residential types (single family homes, town homes, duplexes, multi-use, apartments, condominiums, cohousing, retirement homes).

## **SAFETY**

Police, fire department, lighting, density, neighborhood watch

## **TECHNOLOGY**

"Getting Wired" – communities that utilize wireless technology to stay connected

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Bus, walkability, bikeability, shuttle, car, accessibility for motorized wheelchairs

## **WALKABILITY**

Sidewalks, bike lanes, greenways, playgrounds, alleyways, crosswalks, and lights

# CHARRETTE PARTICIPANTS

## LIVABLE MADISON:

ANTHONY J. VIGLIETTI • PAUL CARLTON • MATT CAMPBELL • LORI CORLEY • TIFINIE ADAMS  
TRACI BENNETT HOBOK • BILL PRIDEMORE • JEFF REILLY • CINDY ELLIS • CAROLYN McCRARY  
RICHARD ODOM • FRANK BALLARD • TOKS OMISHAKIN • PATSY FORKUM • CATHY HOORMAN  
RICKY PERRY • GAIL PERRY • J.D. ELLIOT • NATHAN MASSEY • TERESA GANN • NANCY VANREECE  
JERRY RITTENBERRY • PHIL RYAN • JENNYLOU TODD • WILLIAM FRED SCOTT • DR. JERRY ARMOUR  
ANNE WHITLOW • MARY BETH IKARD • JIM PARKER • ROSE EASTON • SID DURHAM

## LIVABLE SYLVAN PARK:

GREG BECKER • BLAKE SHELIDE • TONY MCKAY • VICTORIA WEBB • ALICE WALKER • MARY VAVRA  
STEPHANIE SWARTZ • PAT WILLIAMS • MONETTE REBECCA • KATE MONAGHAN • KIRA APPELHANS  
MARILYN JOHNSON • LEE JONES • CHRISTI VANOYE • ELAINE HACKERMAN • SUSANE BINNS  
PAT LYNCH • JONI PRIEST • JOHN SUMMERS • KATIE LAMB • PHIL RYAN • JASON HOLLEMAN • KATHY  
EMERY • CONNIE TRIPP • ART HUMMEL • LISA FRIEDMAN • ALISON FULLER • MARY BAHN • JEFF BLACK

# LIVABLE MADISON AGENDA

LIVABLE MADISON CHARETTE  
FIFTY FORWARD MADISON STATION SENIOR CENTER  
SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2011  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
CHARETTE AGENDA

## 1. WELCOME 9:00 A.M.

Why We're Here:

- The Nashville Livability Project
- The Livability "Core" Concept
- Livable Madison Brand

## 2. IDEA TOOLBOX 9:15 A.M.

Great things happening in Madison and other communities that encourage residents to be active and engaged

- MTA Presentation on Madison transportation options
- How other communities are "getting wired"
- Open space and livability

## 3. WHAT SHOULD BE IN MADISON'S LIVABILITY CORE? 10:00 A.M.

Small group discussions on what Madison needs

- What is already available that helps people be active and engaged?
- What are the obstacles to livability in Madison?
- What is missing?
- Recommendations

## BREAK 10:50 A.M.

## 4. WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED? - SMALL GROUPS REPORT 11:00 A.M.

## 5. NEXT STEPS

What will happen with what we learned today?



# MADISON AERIAL VIEW



Madison High School



Madison streetscape, Gallatin Pike



The red outlined area on the above aerial map indicates the identified "core" of Madison



# AND SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Amqui Station



National College  
of Business and Technology



MTA Bus Connection,  
Gallatin Pike



Madison streetscape,  
Gallatin Pike



Madison Branch Library

## GROUP ONE: MAP



IDENTIFIED 'CORE': Madison Village

# GROUP NOTES

## 1.) ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN MADISON?:

- Amqui Station and Fifty Forward
- Churches
- Public library
- Parks
- Area non-profits
- National College of Business and Technology
- National Cemetary and Spring Hill Cemetary
- Senior Center
- Visitor's Center
- Retail
- Historic buildings

## 2.) OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE MADISON:

- Gallatin Pike
- Lack of sidewalks (connecting and mending the existing sidewalks) and pedestrian lighting
- Aesthetics/ dilapidated/underutilized buildings on Gallatin Pike
- Crime
- Traffic
- "9:00-5:00" businesses
- Lack of fine dining
- No attraction for young people

## 3.) IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Outdoor walking space, green space and a park near the library
- Fitness center and pool
- Restaurants, outdoor dining and cafes / less fast food restaurants
- Fountains and water features
- Accessibility features from senior housing
- Obtainable parking
- Safe walking
- Nightlife
- Wireless internet
- Attractions for young people
- Vegetation/trees
- High-density living
- Public art and Landmarks

## 4.) TOP 5 IDENTIFIED NEEDS FOR MADISON:

- Shops for Boomer/Senior Living closer to locations
- Opportunity for mixed development on Gallatin Pike
- Funding for Development
- Community Centers needed
- Sidewalk Needed



# GROUP TWO: MAP



IDENTIFIED 'CORE': Madison Village

# GROUP NOTES

## 1.) ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN MADISON?:

- Public library
- Retail
- Fifty Forward and Amqui
- Historic buildings on Main Street
- Senior Center
- Venue/Visitor's Center
- Green space
- Churches
- Area non-profit agencies
- National College of Business and Technology
- National Cemetery and Spring Hill Cemetery

## 2.) OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE MADISON:

- Lack of sidewalks and missing connectors
- Outdoor walking space
- Gallatin Pike (speed, traffic, etc.)
- Power lines and poles are a hindrance and ugly
- Lighting, aesthetics ('bad looking' and underutilized buildings)
- Lack of services, nightlife, fine dining and wi-fi access

## 3.) IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Water features and other park features
- Building improvements
- Main Street and sidewalk improvements
- Outdoor dining, nightlife, fine dining
- Attraction for young people
- Boutiques, small shops and coffee shops with wifi
- Shade
- Aesthetically pleasing streetscape
- Lighting at night (Neely's Bend and Madison Street)
- Urban/high-density living (apartments)
- Landmarks, focal points and public art
- Fitness/gym facilities
- Transportation
- Access to/from senior living towers

## 4.) WHERE ARE SIDEWALKS NEEDED?

- Neely's Bend Extension, East Old Hickory, Historic Madison, Madison Square, Linda Lane, Gibson Drive, and Forrest Park Area



## GROUP THREE: MAP



### IDENTIFIED 'CORE': Library and Amqui Station

# GROUP NOTES

## 1.) ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN MADISON?:

- Library
- Places of worship
- Hospital/healthcare
- Amqui Station
- School restorations, School of Anesthesiology, Skyline Madison Campus, and Nossi (moving to Madison)
- 'Bulls Eye' for Madison is library (opportunity for public/private partnership to improve the park and building), Amqui and public improvements
- Local utilities and water accessibility
- Railroad access (future lightrail?)

## 2.) OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE MADISON:

- Poor sidewalks
- High traffic/congestion
- Displaced residents
- Visuals and aesthetics (power lines, greenery, eco-friendly)

## 3.) IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Branding:  
Transportation – route to/from Nashville, river/railroad, bike trails/walking, artwork
- Active Needs:  
Higher education (traditional, satellite), healthy and diverse eating establishments, adult day care, transportation connectors, bike access, planned community, restore/reclaim properties and business to establish good reputations, senior outreach, performing and visual arts for youth, building restoration
- Community Positives:  
local utilities, water accessibility, railroad access (commuter rail?)

## 4.) TOP 5 IDENTIFIED NEEDS FOR MADISON:

- Safety (safe use of area: traffic congestion, night outings)
- Aesthetics (power lines, green roofs, crumbling sidewalks, visibility of sky)
- Positive development/preservation of history (historic preservation, farmer's markets and festivals)
- Education (higher education, performance and visual arts opportunities)
- Branding/ positive public relations campaign; Madison is the "Motor Mile;" on river, railroad (Route 66 as model)

## GROUP FOUR: MAP



IDENTIFIED 'CORE': Madison Village

# GROUP NOTES

## 1.) ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN MADISON?:

- Madison Chamber
- Amqui Station
- Fifty Forward
- Peeler Park
- Redeveloped fire house and schools
- Madison Middle School
- Stratton High School
- Public library
- "Bulls Eye" is Madison Village

## 2.) IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE CORE?:

- Complete Street zone – focus on "village" area
- Better sidewalks
- Creating bike lanes
- Public art at overpass
- Rail/music history – Johnny Cash museum
- Festival opportunities
- Pedestrian connection to transit
- Street lights - require developers to pay for as part of projects
- Powerlines – work with NES to sink along Gallatin Pike
- Increasing ridership of the BRT has increased the amount of foot-traffic getting to the bus stops.
- Accessibility, sidewalks and lighting safety need to be addressed



## GROUP FIVE: MAP



IDENTIFIED 'CORE': Madison Village



# GROUP NOTES

## 1.) ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN MADISON?:

- Library
- Churches
- Core of Madison
- Amqui Station
- Community Center (though older, not in good area)
- Shopping (Kroger, H.G. Hill, Madison Square, pharmacies), Entertainment (Amqui, Hoof Beats, Fifty Forward bowling alley, music festival)
- Sparse activities (writer's nights)

## 2.) OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE MADISON:

- Transportation (car is primary mode of transportation; sidewalks are not wide enough, in-accessible or non-existent; connector tunnel under railroad tracks)
- Housing for influx of Nossi students, and
- Connectivity of seniors to downtown, hospital to Madison and Nossi students to the core

## 3.) IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Connector or extension of Neely's Bend
- Connecting Gial Rd. and Peeler Park
- Community Center
- Restaurant near Amqui
- Greater community involvement

# COMMUNITYRECOMMENDATIONS

## THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF MADISON:

- Encourage the YMCA to build a community facility
- Improvements to the core that encourage people to stop in Madison. This will act as the "eye candy," attracting visitors driving on Gallatin Pike

## IDEAS FOR A BETTER MADISON:

- Coffee shops with wireless internet
- Businesses open after 5:00 P.M.
- Performance venues for the developing arts community
- Johnny Cash and Kitty Wells Museums
- Public space at hospital
- Downtown Madison Spray Park
- Renovate and flip older, quality housing stock
- "Take Back the Pike" - Madison should/could reclaim Gallatin Pike (Neely's Bend Collector)
- "Meet me at the \_\_\_\_\_" - creating the idea of the third place

## DEFINING MADISON'S PERSONALITY:

- Diversity: retail, population, etc.
- Friendly and inviting
- Accessible transportation and downtown location
- Paved
- Retail (large paved parking lots) / Homes (large lawns, personal green space)
- Housing that has access to gardens
- "Where I live is not where I shop."
- Good public, private and faith based schools
- Disconnection from reality of Madison and outside perception of Madison
- Rivergate Mall is easily accessible, but perceived as unsafe
- No visual identity in Madison; once it gets started it will have a chance to build on itself
- Goodpasture School is undervalued, but has a strong academic record, drawing students from seven counties and Kentucky

## EXISTING BEAUTIFUL SPACES:

- Cedar Hill Park
- Peeler Park
- Historic Buildings
- Trees and landscaping in neighborhoods
- Thornton Oil Co/Peterbilt Their corporate pride has spawned improvements in the properties abutting their facilities

# WORKSHOP PHOTOGRAPHS





# LIVABLE SYLVAN PARK AGENDA

LIVABLE SYLVAN PARK CHARETTE  
Cohn Adult Learning Center  
4805 Park Avenue  
Saturday, April 16, 2011  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

## CHARETTE AGENDA

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. WELCOME   | 9:00 A.M.  |
| Why We're Here:  |            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Nashville Livability Project</li><li>• The Livability "Core" Concept</li><li>• Livable Sylvan Park Brand</li></ul>   |            |
| 2. IDEA TOOLBOX  | 9:15 A.M.  |
| Great things happening in Sylvan Park and other communities that encourage residents to be active and engaged  |            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MTA Presentation on Sylvan Park transportation options</li><li>• How other communities are "getting wired"</li><li>• Open space and livability</li></ul>   |            |
| 3. WHAT SHOULD BE IN MADISON'S LIVABILITY CORE?  | 10:00 A.M. |
| Small group discussions on what Sylvan Park needs  |            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What is already available that helps people be active and engaged?</li><li>• What are the obstacles to livability in Sylvan Park?</li><li>• What is missing?</li><li>• Recommendations</li></ul> |            |
| BREAK  | 10:50 A.M. |
| 4. WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED? - SMALL GROUPS REPORT   | 11:00 A.M. |
| 5. NEXT STEPS  |            |
| What will happen with what we learned today?   |            |



# SYLVAN PARK AERIAL VIEW



Sylvan Park Elementary School



Richland Park



An aerial view of Sylvan Park



# AND SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



The Global Education Center  
Charlotte Pike



Wyoming Avenue  
Sylvan Park



Charlotte Pike streetscape



Richland Creek



Sylvan Park home



# GROUP ONE: MAP



IDENTIFIED CORE: No single core, but three separate cores: school, 46th & Murphy and library. This encompasses more area, and would allow more people walkable access to a core.

# GROUP NOTES

## 1. ASSETS / WHAT IS ALREADY IN SYLVAN PARK?:

- Location
- Restaurants
- Low Crime
- Greenspace
- Good boundaries
- MTA Connections
- Historic homes/diversity
- Guest houses (helps with affordability)
- Recreation opportunities (ball courts, fields, community center, Senior Center at Cohn)

## 2. OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE SYLVAN PARK:

- Better bus access (trolley)
- Graffiti
- Parking for restaurants, community center

## 3. IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Implementation Richland Master Plan
- Sidewalks and pedestrian improvements
- Traffic calming features
- Circuit connecting Sylvan to West End and Charlotte
- Having more than one core - Murphy Core and Richland Park
- Pervious surfaces, if paved
- Committees established for recycling, graffiti and alley beautification
- Capture rainwater/stormwater
- Bury power lines
- Plant more trees
- Neighborhood watch groups
- Neighborhood restaurants that ban guns and do not serve alcohol

## 4. TOP IDENTIFIED NEEDS FOR SYLVAN PARK:

- Affordable condominiums and residences on Charlotte Pike
- Coffee houses and grocery stores on Charlotte
- Implement Richland Park Plan and Charlotte Pike Plan
- Partner with MBA and neighboring associations for community activities



# GROUP TWO: MAP



IDENTIFIED CORE: 46th & Charlotte Pike



# GROUP NOTES

## 1. ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN SYLVAN PARK?:

- Architecture
- Restaurant core (Murphy, Grenway, McCabe Park, Richland Park); Bobby's and Miel
- Library
- Farmer's Market
- School district/ Sylvan Park Elementary
- St. Thomas office on Charlotte Pike
- Churches - religious options
- Produce Place
- Nursery - physical space, houses, landscape, etc.
- Post Office
- Import Wholesale Flowers
- Storage facility
- Police station / safety
- Easy access to interstates
- Full service gas station
- Community Center
- Cohn Learning Center
- Richland Creek Run
- Parade
- Neighborhood Association

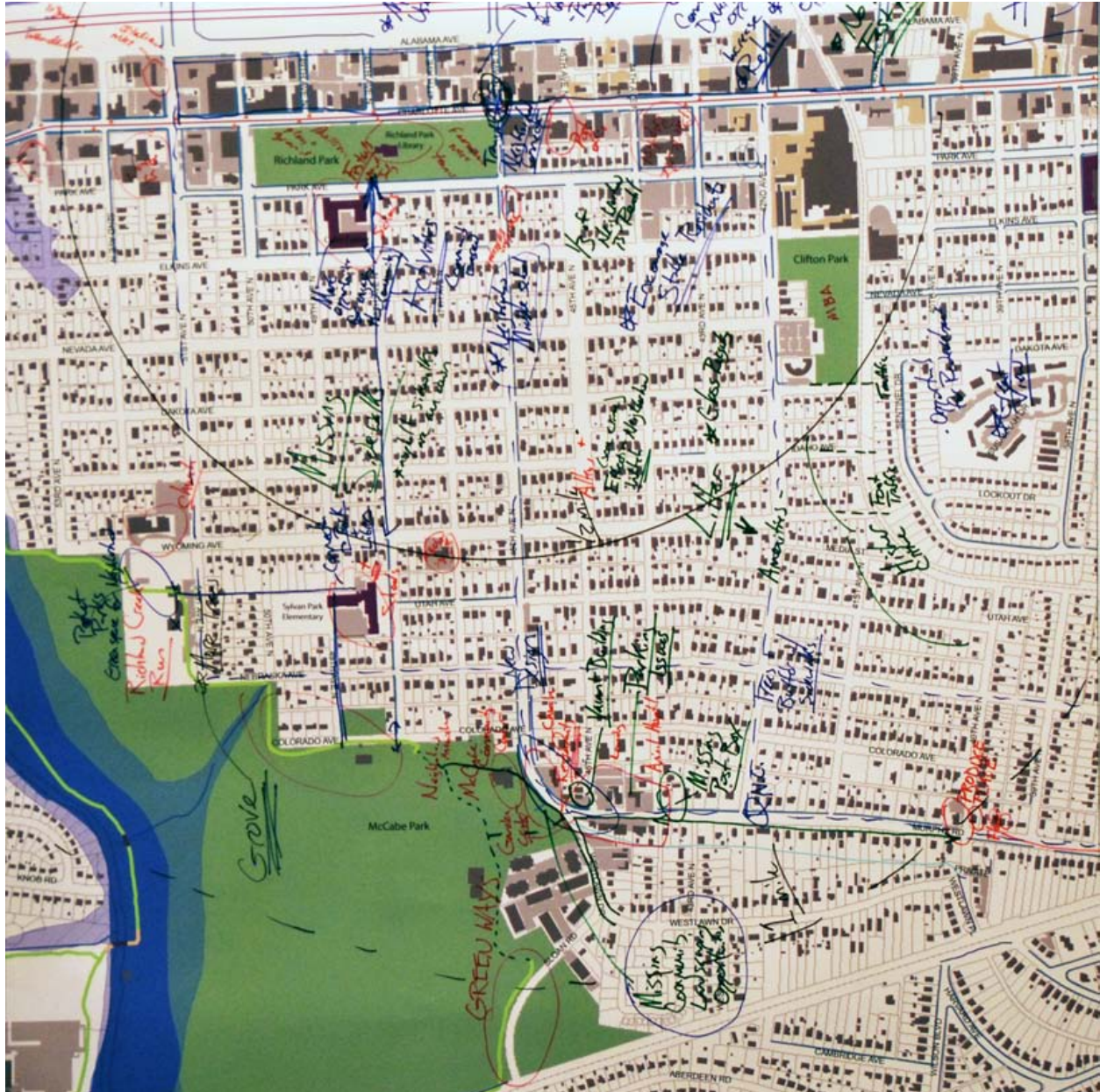
## 2. OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE SYLVAN PARK:

- Better bus access and transportation - reinstate a trolley or Murphy Road bus
- "Cut-through area" causes high traffic (Westlawn, Nebraska, 42nd, 37th, Murphy)/ traffic calming
- Safety/ graffiti
- Parking around restaurants, park and community center
- Aesthetics and traffic on Charlotte
- Community commitment to street beautification
- Lack of open space

## 3. IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Connections to greenways and Centennial Park
- Bus stop on Murphy and 46th
- Access to transit / Charlotte Pike Corridor Study
- Creating impervious sidewalks and surface alleys
- Establishing committees for recycling, safety, graffiti and alley development
- Underground utilities
- Work with city for more trees and landscaping
- Community outreach for children and seniors
- Neighborhood watch
- Communicate with community restaurants
- Better parking in core
- Family restaurants
- More community schools/ neighborhood middle school

# GROUP THREE: MAP



IDENTIFIED CORE: 46th Avenue, to capture as many people and businesses as possible

# GROUP NOTES

## 1. ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN SYLVAN PARK?:

- Library
- Produce Place
- Restaurants
- Farmer's Market
- Golf Course
- Walkability
- Open Space
- Churches
- Residential (Condos, duplexes and single-family rental)
- Gas stations
- Post Office
- Community Activities (Richland Creek Run, Neighborhood parade, Neighborhood associations, Nights Out Against Crime)
- Sense of community (open personality; polite, peaceful neighborhood)
- Proximity to downtown
- Diversity of businesses
- Paideia Middle School and Cohn School

## 2. OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE SYLVAN PARK:

- Lack of sidewalks
- Speed of traffic on Charlotte
- Safety concerns
- More development is important, but cautious - need small scale community based
- Pervious surfaces - eye sore at Sylvan Park Restaurant
- Parking in commercial areas
- Problematic rainwater/drainage

## 3. IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Strategic installation of sidewalks, garbage cans, and mail boxes
- Community commitment to landscaping
- Neighborhood Watch
- Greenway connection at Golf Course
- Access to Centennial Park
- Clean streets
- More open space/passive space accessible to everyone
- Extend cherry trees
- Golf Course closed to nongolfers
- Pocket Parks
- Charlotte Pike Corridor Study
- Connector shuttle - circulator within 2 blocks walking distance
- Neighborhood marker on Charlotte
- Add to seasonal interest - expand cherry tree idea throughout all seasons
- Neighborhood festival
- Charlotte as a retail corridor
- Increased long term residential



[illegible]

**30**



# GROUP NOTES

## 1. ASSETS/ WHAT IS ALREADY IN SYLVAN PARK?:

- Diversity (mix of people, economics, organizations)
- Openness of community (Quiet and peaceful, character of neighborhood)
- Walkability, even without sidewalks
- Diversity of architecture, businesses and restaurants (Dairy Dip, Miel and Dark Horse)
- Community Centers, ball fields and recreation opportunities
- Proximity to downtown; location is central to everything
- Greenway, Richland Creek Watershed, and McCabe
- Alternative learning and entertainment
- Safety/ low crime
- Lack of short fences
- Farmer's Market
- Alleys
- MTA
- Afforability

## 2. OBSTACLES TO A MORE LIVABLE SYLVAN PARK:

- Lack of sidewalks
- Speed of traffic on Charlotte/ Murphy
- Safety along Charlotte in homes – access to crime
- Thoughtful, small-scale commercial development
- Noise - vegetative loss at Richland Creek has increased noise adjacent to Charlotte and Creek
- Lack of neighborhood identification on Charlotte

## 3. IMPROVEMENTS/ WHAT IS MISSING IN THE INNER CORE?:

- Connector shuttle for neighborhood
- Signage on Charlotte to indicate neighborhood
- Traffic calming
- Traffic circles at Richland Creek and Charlotte / 46th and Charlotte
- Add seasonal interest along Murphy in addition to cherry trees
- New festivals to celebrate the community
- Strategic location of new sidewalks and bike lanes
- Implement Richland Master Plan
- Condos/residential on Charlotte
- Greater variety of restaurants, coffee houses and grocery stores
- Partner with MBA , partner more with neighborhood groups
- Locally owned business

## 4. TOP IDENTIFIED NEEDS FOR SYLVAN PARK:

- Connector/Shuttle on Charlotte
- Neighborhood markers
- Seasonal interest in landscape
- Neighborhood festivals marking some seasons
- Strategic sidewalks

# COMMUNITYRECOMMENDATIONS

## THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE OF SYLVAN PARK:

- Connector/Shuttle on Charlotte
- Neighborhood markers
- Seasonal interest in landscape
- Neighborhood festivals marking some seasons
- Strategic sidewalks and bike lanes
- Affordable condominiums and residences on Charlotte Pike
- Coffee houses and grocery stores on Charlotte
- Implement Richland Park Plan and Charlotte Pike Plan
- Partner with MBA and neighboring associations for community activities

## IDEAS FOR A BETTER SYLVAN PARK:

- Retail along Charlotte Corridor
- Local shuttle
- Community commitment to landscaping
- Community activities for all ages
- More community band activity at Cohn
- Keep neighborhood children in neighborhood schools
- Connect park to library and sidewalks
- Connection to Centennial Park
- Recycling programs
- Create higher percentage of long term residents
- More traffic calming features

## DEFINING SYLVAN PARK'S PERSONALITY:

- Charm of neighborhood - defined by older homes
- Quiet, peaceful - a place of respite
- Diversity of people (young, old, 'quirky musicians')
- Diversity of restaurants and businesses

## EXISTING BEAUTIFUL SPACES:

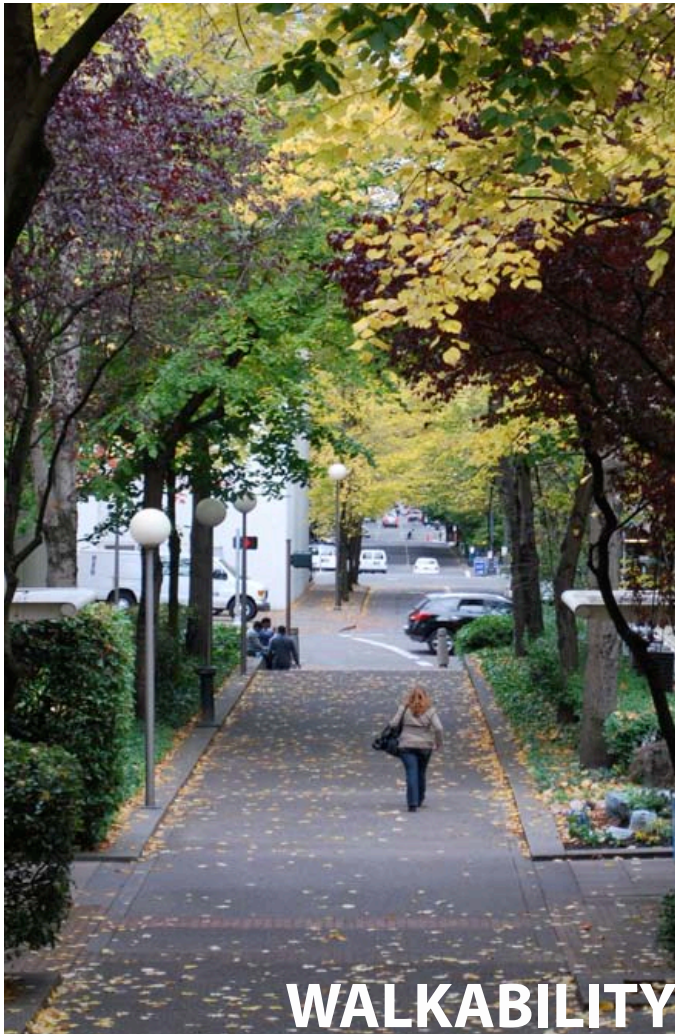
- Richland Creek Run
- McCabe Park
- Richland Park
- Cherry trees along Murphy

# WORKSHOP PHOTOGRAPHS





# LIVABLE COMMUNITY:



**WALKABILITY**



**TRANSPORTATION**



**FOOD ACCESS**

Photo Source: SitePhocus



**SAFETY**

Photo Source: SitePhocus



**CIVIC**

Photo Source: SitePhocus



# IDEA TOOLBOX



## ENTERTAINMENT

Photo Source: SitePhocus



## ACTIVE LEARNING

Photo Source: SitePhocus



## HEALTHCARE



## CONVENIENCE

Photo Source: SitePhocus



## HOUSING TYPES

Photo Source: SitePhocus

# LIVABILITY CORE CHECKLIST

*The Livability Core Checklist is a scoring system to help create a greater understanding of a community's livability assets and needs. The checklist is a tool that allows anyone to rank a list of needs for a community for both the immediate and long-term future and effect change to build a more livable community.*

## (1) SOCIAL OFFERINGS - "MEET ME AT THE..."

- ☐ Destinations, places to meet (e.g. landmarks, coffee shops, playgrounds, Visitor Center)
- ☐ Night life (including cinema, performing arts and music, restaurants, bars and coffee shops that are open until 10:00 or later)
- ☐ Fun things to do for all ages and physical abilities
- ☐ Festivals and events
- ☐ Libraries
- ☐ Places of Worship

## (2) COMMUNITY AESTHETICS

- ☐ Open spaces, parks, pocket parks, greenways - "Getting in touch with nature without getting in my car."
- ☐ Local history and historic/ cultural places preserved
- ☐ Community planning and guidelines in place that encourage good design
- ☐ Buried power lines
- ☐ Neighborhood signage
- ☐ Public art
- ☐ Various types of access to nature
- ☐ Walkable alleys that are safe, green and welcoming
- ☐ Street trees and complete streets

## (3) HOUSING

- ☐ Range of housing prices/rents
- ☐ Variety of housing types available (e.g. single family, multi-family, homeownership, rental)
- ☐ Accessibility of housing options - interiors and exteriors that accommodate residents and visitors of varying physical abilities
- ☐ Percentage of Livability Core housing that is affordable housing
- ☐ Zoning that supports small square-footage housing options (e.g. garage apartments)

## (4) ACTIVE LIFESTYLES AND SOCIAL INTERACTION

- ☐ Recreational opportunities, both organized and informal
- ☐ Clubs and organizations (e.g. neighborhood associations, bridge and book clubs)
- ☐ Volunteer opportunities that engage and provide meaning for various age groups
- ☐ Technology-supported ways for residents to be in touch with what is going on in the community and with each others
- ☐ Residents, visitors and workers within the Core can connect through the internet
- ☐ Senior Center(s)

(5) HEALTH

- ☐ Indoor and outdoor exercise/sports facilities and walking tracks/paths (fitness clubs, community centers, basketball and tennis courts, swimming pools, greenways)
- ☐ Hospital and/or clinics nearby
- ☐ Farmer's market(s)
- ☐ Grocery stores/markets of varying size (both chain and locally owned)
- ☐ Access to locally grown produce and meat products
- ☐ Pharmacies and health food stores
- ☐ Living at home services, private and/or non-profit (e.g. 'Meals on Wheels, home care providers)
- ☐ Technology that makes Metro Health Dept's health portal accessible

(6) SAFETY

- ☐ Nearby police station
- ☐ Low actual crime rate
- ☐ Active Neighborhood Watch program
- ☐ Good streetscape design including pedestrian-scaled street lighting and well-lit public spaces
- ☐ Nearby fire station
- ☐ Sidewalks and street crossings in good repair and allow for use of mobility equipment (e.g. wheelchairs and strollers) / sidewalks that connect destinations and make walking safe

(7) TRANSPORTATION

- ☐ Non-automobile transportation options available (e.g. bus, rapid bus transit, neighborhood bus circulator, Access Ride, bike lanes, rail for residents and workers)
- ☐ Safe, comfortable waiting areas for bus/rail transit with bike lockers/racks
- ☐ Bike sharing/rental and sharing/rental of other transportation vehicles available

(8) ENRICHED EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

- ☐ Full and part-time employment placement services available
- ☐ Public and private schools that rank above average
- ☐ Technical/ trade schools
- ☐ Adult classes available
- ☐ Technology and other resources accessible that support self-employment, home offices and telecommunicating

(9) ENVIRONMENT

- ☐ Curbside recycling and/or recycling services
- ☐ Community gardens
- ☐ Tree canopy that contributes to aesthetics and/or provides shade established and maintained
- ☐ Green roofs
- ☐ Drainage and storm water issues under control

(10) MISCELLANEOUS

- ☐ Physical features that contribute to "personality" or character of the neighborhood/community
- ☐ Section of a major thoroughfare identified where a historic or culture center could be developed (e.g. Charlotte Pike, Gallatin Pike) that slows traffic, is pleasant to pedestrians and offers retail and entertainment venues
- ☐ Plans in process for developing an historic or cultural center in the Core
- ☐ Post office and/or mailboxes

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The Nashville Civic Design Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2000, whose mission is to elevate the quality of Nashville's built environment and to promote public participation in the creation of a more beautiful and functional city for all.



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